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DUE DATE 29 June '85 (Final)  
DOCKETED (28 May) ~~NOTES~~  
NOTED  
Dear Sir,  
Swiss Patent Application No. 3040/81  
PM 1088/9  
Our File: 23844

RECEIVED  
PHILIP MORRIS, INC.  
LAW DEPT.-PATENT SECTION  
MAY 14 1985  
NOTED

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JHB/JB/23844  
8th May, 1985

We enclose a copy of a formal official action reporting that the application is allowable and giving a term of two months for voluntary amendments, the term to expire on 29th June 1985.

As you will appreciate, the subject of this patent does not fall in those classes which are subjected to examination for novelty. The application is accordingly only examined as to form and has not been found objectionable.

Amendments have been made in various other countries to deal with various situations, among them amendments to bring the claims more into line with those allowed in the United States and, in a few countries only, to anticipate a ground of possible invalidity arising from the first priority date of a copending patent application of Imperial Group Limited.

We do not have any record of a corresponding Imperial application in Switzerland although, having regard to its possible date, it might well not have been published there yet. Thus it would not appear on the data bases where we have conducted our search for equivalent applications, but an enquiry at the Swiss Patent Office should reveal if there is such an application.

Do you wish us to look into this question and, if so, take similar action to that in France? Alternatively, would you wish to proceed with the present claims unamended, or alter them in line with the U.S. Patent?

Your early instructions would assist us, in view of the short time allowed for voluntary amendment.

Yours faithfully,

*Patricia Palmer*